Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 13154 311718Z

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ACTION SS-25

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R 311403Z DEC 75 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8899

SECRET CAIRO 13154

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR AO EG SUBJECT: ANGOLA

REF: CAIRO 13013 (NODIS)

1. I CALLED ON MINSTATE MOHAMMED RIAD LAST NIGHT TO DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ANGOLA. RECALLING MY EARLIET TALK WITH FAHMY, AT WHICH HE HAD BEEN PRESENT (REFTEL), I NOTED WE ARE CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS ALONG THE LINES I HAD EARLIER MENTIONED. AS HE HAD PERHAPS HEARD, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE SECRETARY TO SOME OF THE WEST AFRICAN STATES TO BOLSTER THEIR RESOLVE. WE ALSO CONTINUE TO LOOK TO GOE TO PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE AS FAHMY HAD PROMISED WOULD BE THE CASE.

2. INTHIS CONNECTION, I NOTED THE SUDAN HAD JUST RECOGNIZED MPLA. THIS WAS DISAPPOINTING AND SURPRISING. WE HAD HOPED GOE WOULD BE ABLE TO DISSUADE THE SUDANESE AND OTHER AFRICAN GOVTS FROM TAKING SUCH A STEP. RIAD WAS A BIT EMBARRASSED ABOUT SUDAENESE ACTION BUT CLAIMED SUDAN HAD NOT CONSULTED GOE BEFORE RECOGNIZIING MPLA. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAD PROMPTED SUDANESE ACTION, BUT SUSPECTED IT WAS A REACTION TO SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT. WITH SOME ANNOYANCE, RIAD NOTED SUDANESE ARE SAYING GOE ADVISED THEM TO DO SO. HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED THAT THIS SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 13154 311718Z

WAS THE CASE.

- 3. RIAD AFFIRMED THAT GOE POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED, BUT ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THERE ARE NOW 21 OAU MEMBER STATES WHO HAVE RECONGIZED MPLA. NOTING IDI AMIN ALSO SEEMS TO BE WAVERING, HE SPECULATED THAT UGANDA MAY SHORTLY DO THE SAME, WHICH WOULD MEAN 22 STATES. HE INDICATED THAT WITH THAT LARGE NUMBER OF STATES ALREADY ENDORSING THE MPLA THE POSSIBILITY OF A BANDWAGON REACTION CANNOT BE EXCLUDED. IF ONLY THREE MORE STATES RECONGIZE MPLA. THE PRO-MPLA FORCES AT UPCOMING OAU MEETING WILL HAVE A MAJORITY. GOE CANNOT, INT EH FINAL ANALYSIS, STAND OUT ALONE AGAINST AFRICAN SENTIMENT.
- 4. ISAID I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE MANY OTHER AFRICAN STATES WHO CONTINUE TO OPPOSE MPLA AND GOE WILL NOT STAND ALONE. IT WAS IMPORTANT HOWEVER THAT GOE STAND UP AND BE COUNTED ON THIS MATTER. RIAD REITERATED THAT HE WILL DO EVERYTHING HE CAN TO PRESS FOR CEASEFIRE, WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN FORCES AND AN OAU EFFORT TO ARRIVE AT A SETTLEMENT AMONG THE THREE GROUPS. HE WILL MEET WITH FAHMY TODAY TO RECEIVE FINAL INSTRUCTIONS.
- 5. RIAD LEAVES FOR MAURITANIA AND MOROCCO TOMORROW ANDPLANS TO PROCEED DIRECTLY FROM RABAT TO ADDIS ABABA. HE DOES NOT EXPECT TO TRANSIT CAIRO, BUT HOPES TO ARRIVE IN ADDIS ON JAN 7. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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